

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Greece

**Post:** Rome

### Fresh Deciduous Fruit Annual 2014

**Report Categories:**

Fresh Deciduous Fruit

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**Report Highlights:**

Greece's MY 2014/15 (July/June) apple production is forecast to decrease by 2 percent, because of the low temperatures occurred during fruit setting and maturity phases. Greece's MY 2014/15 (July/June) pear production is forecast to slightly increase from the previous year, but still below MY 2012/13 levels. Quality is good. Greece is the third largest producer of table grapes in the EU-28, behind Italy and Spain. According to industry estimates, after a record campaign in MY 2013/14, MY 2014/15 table grape production is forecast at 298,000 MT. The crop season, which started during the second week of August and is expected to end early this year, is forecast to be satisfactory both in terms of caliber and quality.

## I. APPLES

**Table 1: Production, Supply, and Demand (MT)**

Apples	2012	2013	2014
	Estimates 2012/2013	Estimates 2013/2014	Forecast 2014/2015
	Post Data	Post Data	Post Data
Area Planted	14,000	13,500	13,500
Area Harvested	13,720	13,230	13,220
Commercial Production	242,000	236,000	231,000
Production	242,000	236,000	231,000
Intra EU-28 Imports	8,863	9,210	9,240
Extra EU-28 Imports	2,255	7,776	7,782
Total Imports	11,118	16,986	17,022
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>253,118</b>	<b>252,986</b>	<b>248,022</b>
Fresh Domestic Consumption	205,310	185,576	181,322
Intra EU-28 Exports	12,589	12,191	12,000
Extra EU-28 Exports	35,219	55,219	54,700
Total Exports	47,808	67,410	66,700
<b>Total Distribution</b>	<b>253,118</b>	<b>252,986</b>	<b>248,022</b>

Sources: Greek industry; WAPA; GTA

## PRODUCTION

Greece's MY 2014/15 (July/June) apple production is forecast to decrease by 2 percent, because of the low temperatures occurred during fruit setting and maturity phases. In Greece, there are approximately 12,470 hectares currently cultivated for apples. The main producing areas include the prefectures of Kastoria, Pella, and Imathia in Macedonia; Volos, Larissa, Pelion, and Kissavos in Thessaly; Arcadia in Peloponnese. Almost 56 percent of Greek apple orchards consist of red varieties, predominately *Red Delicious* group. The green varieties (mostly *Granny Smith*) follow with 16 percent, and the yellow varieties (particularly *Golden Delicious*) with 9 percent. The remaining 19 percent of cultivated orchards are planted with *Fuji*, *Gala*, *Jonagold*, and new apple varieties (*Ariane*, *Belgica*, *Cameo*, *Diwa*, *Honey Crunch*, *Jazz*, *Junami*, *Rubens*, *Tentation*, *Wellant*, etc.). Due to its excellent quality and shapely form, the *Zagora* apple (a local *Red Delicious* variety) has been awarded by the European Commission as a PDO (Protected Designation of Origin), also known as Geographic Indication of Origin.

## TRADE

In MY 2013/14, Greece exported 67,410 MT of apples, mainly to Egypt (35,126 MT). Exports to Russia reached 2,115 MT. In MY 2013/14, Greece imported 16,986 MT of apples, mainly from Macedonia (5,427 MT), Italy (4,430 MT), Poland (1,587 MT), and Germany (1,207 MT).

## II. PEARS

**Table 3: Production, Supply, and Demand (MT)**

Pears	2012	2013	2014
	Estimates 2012/2013	Estimates 2013/2014	Forecast 2014/2015
	Post Data	Post Data	Post Data
Area Planted	4,500	4,700	4,700
Area Harvested	4,230	4,418	4,426
Commercial Production	42,000	32,000	35,000
Production	42,000	32,000	35,000
Intra EU-28 Imports	5,043	4,254	4,000
Extra EU-28 Imports	3,729	4,060	4,000
Total Imports	8,772	8,314	8,000
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>50,772</b>	<b>40,314</b>	<b>43,000</b>
Fresh Domestic Consumption	45,511	35,918	38,490
Intra EU-28 Exports	2,813	2,854	2,950
Extra EU-28 Exports	2,448	1,542	1,560
Total Exports	5,261	4,396	4,510
<b>Total Distribution</b>	<b>50,772</b>	<b>40,314</b>	<b>43,000</b>

Sources: Greek industry; WAPA; GTA

## PRODUCTION

Greece's MY 2014/15 (July/June) pear production is forecast to slightly increase from the previous year, but still below MY 2012/13 levels. Quality is good. According to industry estimates, there are approximately 4,700 hectares currently cultivated for pears. The main producing areas include the prefectures of Tirnavos and Larissa in Thessaly; Laconia and Korinth in Peloponnese. *William Christ/Bartlett*, *Passacrassana*, *Abate Fetel*, and *Coscia-Ercollini* are the leading pear varieties grown in Greece.

## TRADE

Greece's MY 2013/14 pear imports reached 8,314 MT, mainly from Argentina (2,461 MT), Spain (2,428 MT), South Africa (1,124 MT), and Italy (1,018 MT). In MY 2013/14, Greece exported 4,396 MT of pears, mostly to Albania (1,197 MT) and Bulgaria (1,182 MT). Exports to Russia totaled 45 MT.

## III. TABLE GRAPES

**Table 5: Production, Supply, and Demand (MT)**

Table grapes	2012	2013	2014
	Estimates 2012/2013	Estimates 2013/2014	Forecast 2014/2015
	Post Data	Post Data	Post Data
Area Planted	17,960	17,300	17,000
Area Harvested	17,850	17,300	17,000
Commercial Production	292,700	325,960	298,000
Production	292,700	325,960	298,000
Intra EU-28 Imports	928	909	1,000
Extra EU-28 Imports	214	179	182
Total Imports	1,142	1,088	1,182
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>293,842</b>	<b>327,048</b>	<b>299,182</b>
Fresh Domestic Consumption	230,300	237,831	230,000
Intra EU-28 Exports	58,089	84,695	65,082
Extra EU-28 Exports	5,453	4,522	4,100
Total Exports	63,542	89,217	69,182
<b>Total Distribution</b>	<b>293,842</b>	<b>327,048</b>	<b>299,182</b>

Sources: Greek industry; GTA

## PRODUCTION

Greece is the third largest producer of table grapes in the EU-28, behind Italy and Spain. According to industry estimates, after a record campaign in MY 2013/14, MY 2014/15 table grape production is forecast at 298,000 MT. The crop season, which started during the second week of August and is expected to end early this year, is forecast to be satisfactory both in terms of caliber and quality. In Greece, there are approximately 17,000 hectares currently cultivated with table grapes. The main producing areas include the prefectures of Corinth in Peloponnese; Kavala in Macedonia; and Heraklion in the island of Crete. *Sultana (Thompson Seedless)* and *Victoria* are the leading table grape varieties

grown in Greece. Moreover, a greater focus is now being placed on diversifying Greece's grape offer to extend the marketing season into October and November.

## **TRADE**

In MY 2013/14, Greece exported 89,217 MT of table grapes (especially *Victoria* and *Sultana* varieties), mainly to Germany (36,463 MT), the United Kingdom (12,583 MT), the Netherlands (9,560 MT), and Poland (7,586 MT). Exports to Russia totaled 288 MT. Greek table grapes (both seedless and seeded) are mainly marketed within Europe from late July to the end of September. In MY 2013/14, Greece imported 1,088 MT of table grapes, mainly from Italy (237 MT), Germany (202 MT), and Romania (188 MT).

### **Abbreviations and definitions used in this report:**

EU European Union  
MS EU-28 Member State  
Ha hectare; 1 ha = 2.471 acres  
MT Metric ton = 1000 kg  
MMT Million metric tons

### **MY Marketing year**

Apples: July/June  
Pears: July/June  
Table Grapes: June/May

### **HS Codes:**

Apples: 080810  
Pears: 080830  
Table grapes: 08061010